

A new name for *Amphiphalera nigripuncta* Kiriakoff, 1979 (Lepidoptera: Notodontidae)

by

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Amphiphalera kiriakoffi nom. nov. is proposed as a replacement name for *A. nigripuncta* Kiriakoff, 1979, from Uganda, a homonym of *A. nigripuncta* Kiriakoff, 1975, from Mozambique.

Kiriakoff (1979) described *Amphiphalera nigripuncta* on a holotype male from Kalinzu Forest, Uganda. Previously (Kiriakoff 1975), he had described the 'neallotype female' of this taxon from Savane Forest, Mozambique. This earlier description appears to be valid under the rules of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature and the description of *A. nigripuncta* therefore should date from 1975. Although Kiriakoff did not place type labels on the specimens he examined for the 1975 paper, the inclusion of the sign '♀' on the determination label of one of the Mozambique specimens is interpreted here as an indication of the 'neallotype'; this specimen is regarded as the primary type (the holotype) of *A. nigripuncta* Kiriakoff, 1975.

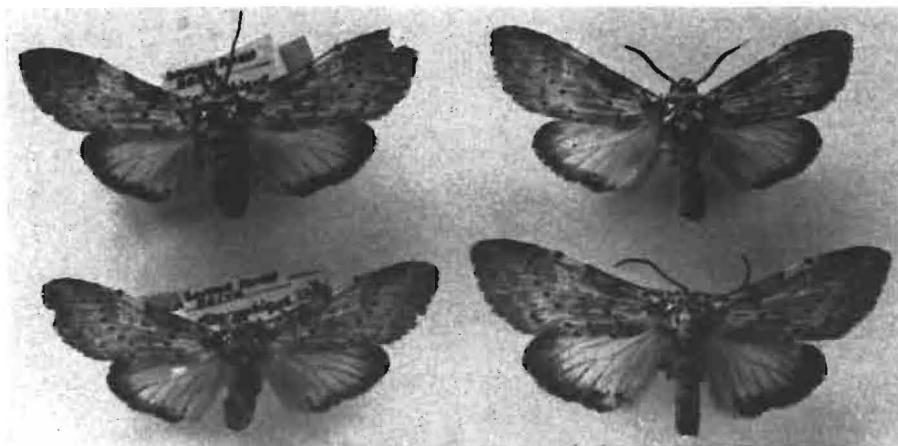


Fig. 1. *Amphiphalera nigripuncta* Kiriakoff, 1975. Left: Holotype ♂ (= 'neallotype') (upper) and paratype ♂ (lower) from Savane Forest, Beira. Right: Male and female from Chiluwo Hills.

Examination of a series of 35 specimens in the Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe, Bulawayo, from both type localities (including the 4 specimens seen and labelled by Kiriakoff in 1974), revealed that the Uganda and Mozambique specimens are not conspecific. Furthermore, the supposed 'females' are in fact males; true females are present in the Museum series from Chiluwo Hills, Mozambique but these were not seen by Kiriakoff.

Accordingly, *Amphiphalera nigripuncta* Kiriakoff, 1979 is a junior homonym of *A. nigripuncta* Kiriakoff, 1975 and *Amphiphalera kiriakoffi* nom. nov. is proposed here as a replacement name for the Uganda species. The Mozambique species (Fig. 1) has not previously been illustrated; it is paler than the other two species in the genus (the third being *A. leuconephra* Hampson from West Africa) and the male has a much longer uncus.

Due to a typographical error in Kiriakoff's original (1975) description of *A. nigripuncta*, the date of capture of the holotype (= neallotype) is incorrectly recorded as 1 January 1967; this should read 1 November 1967.

REFERENCES

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Accepted 30 October 1990